

## Message Text

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FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PARIS DATED 8/2/73 ACTION SECSTATE

INFO BRUSSELS RPTD FOR YOUR INFO:

QTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 20966

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, BE, TGEN

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN SPACE CONFERENCE

DEPT PASS NASA

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SCI FOR POLLACK

FOLLOWING IS ADVANCE TRANSLATED TEXT OF LETTER BEING SENT TO SECRETARY ROGERS BY MINISTER HANIN TODAY. INFO RECEIVED INFORMALLY FROM ESRO AND DOES NOT REPEAT NOT CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL TRANSMISSION.

1. QUOTE - DEAR MR. SECRETARY:

AS YOU KNOW THE EUROPEAN SPACE CONFERENCE MET IN BRUSSELS ON 31 JULY 1973 AS A FOLLOW UP OF THE MEETING ON 12 JULY, AND IT HAD BEEN DECIDED BY THE MINISTERS THAT THREE NEW SPATIAL PROGRAMS WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN CONJOINTLY BY THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

2. THE FIRST OF THESE PROGRAMS IS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SPACELAB WHICH WILL CONSTITUTE EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION IN THE POST-APOLLO PROGRAM. THE SECOND IS THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HEAVY LAUNCHER, PRESENTLY CALLED L3S. THE THIRD IS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A MARITIME SATELLITE MAROTS. BESIDES, THE MINISTERS HAVE DECIDED THAT A EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY WHICH WOULD TAKE OVER THE MISSIONS OF CERS/ESRO AND CECLES/ELDO, WOULD START ITS ACTIVITY COMMENCING APRIL 1, 1974.

3. THE CONFERENCE NOTED THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE THREE PROGRAMS AND THE CREATION OF THE ESA FORMED AN INDISSOCIABLE WHOLE. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT WAS NOTED THAT IN SPITE OF THE CONSIDERABLE EFFORT ACCOMPLISHED BY THE PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS, SOME OF THEM WERE NOT YET IN A POSITION TO TAKE FIRM ENGAGEMENTS, BUT THAT THEY COULD EVENTUALLY JOIN THE PROGRAMS DECIDED UPON BY SEPTEMBER 18, 1973. BUT, I MUST POINT OUT THAT THE LACK OF FUNDS DUE TO THIS SITUATION IS NOT CONSIDERABLE COMPARED WITH THE THREE PROGRAMS.

4. THE CONFERENCE HAS ADMITTED THAT THE DECISION TO UNDERTAKE THE THREE PROGRAMS AND TO CREATE THE ESA WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A GENERAL RESERVE, WHICH COULD BE REMOVED WHEN THE GOVERNMENTS WHICH WERE UNABLE YET TO DO SO, TAKE A DECISION ON THEIR PARTICIPATION, THAT IS BEFORE SEPTEMBER 18, 1973.

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5. I AM PLEASED TO UNDERLINE THAT, EXCEPT FOR THE ABOVE RESERVE, THE CONFERENCE HAS NOW CONFIRMED ITS DECEMBER 1972 DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SPACELAB PROGRAM AND HAS DEFINED ITS FINANCING. DIRECTIVES HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO PERMIT THE SIGNING OF LEGAL DOCUMENTS WHICH HAVE ALREADY BEEN PREPARED.

6. IN PRACTICE, THE GENERAL RESERVE MENTIONED ABOVE CONSTRAINS

EUROPE TO REQUEST THE US GOVERNMENT TO POSTPONE THE DATE FOR CONFIRMATION OF THE SPACELAB PROGRAM TO SEPTEMBER 18, 1973. NEVERTHELESS, THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ESRO AND CERTAIN MEMBER STATES, THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN ESRO AND NASA, AND THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT COULD BE SIGNED ON THE DATES INITIALLY FORESEEN, IT BEING UNDERSTOOD THAT THE SIGNATURES WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY WRITTEN STATEMENTS SUBORDINATING THE ENFORCEMENT OF THESE DOCUMENTS TO A SATISFACTORY DECISION ON THE PART OF THE STATES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO COMMIT THEMSELVES DURING THE CONFERENCE.

7. THE ESRO COUNCIL HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS WITH APPROPRIATE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES.

8. PLEASE BE ASSURED, MR. SECRETARY, OF MY HIGH CONSIDERATION.  
SIGNED: CHARLES HANIN. END QUOTE.

9. HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT ENGLISH LANGUAGE TELEGRAM TELEXED DIRECTLY SECSTATE FROM BRUSSELS, APPROXIMATELY 11:00 AM LOCAL. COPY OF THAT MESSAGE NOT YET RECEIVED BY EMBASSY BRUSSELS.  
STONE  
UNQTE ROGERS

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## Message Attributes

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